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Forty-eighth session
27 January - 6 March 1992
Item 11 (c) of the agenda

COORDINATING ROLE OF THE CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS WITHIN THE UNITED NATIONS BODIES AND MACHINERY DEALING WITH THE PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Report of the Secretary-General prepared pursuant to Commission resolution 1991/22

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GE.92-10398/8525a

Introduction

1. In its resolution 1991/22, entitled "Coordinating role of the Centre for Human Rights", adopted at its forty-seventh session on 5 March 1991, the Commission on Human Rights again invited the Secretary-General to request Governments, the specialized agencies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to express their views on the strengthening of the activities of the Centre for Human Rights, with special emphasis on new directions and forms, including increasing the representation of under-represented groups of States, notably the developing countries, in senior and policy-formulating posts in the Centre, while safeguarding the principle of equitable geographical distribution, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, particularly resolution 45/125 on the improvement of the status of women in the secretariat, and to submit a report setting out those views and opinions to the Commission at its forty-eighth session.

2. Pursuant to the above resolution, the Secretary-General requested Governments, United Nations specialized agencies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, by a note verbale and a letter of 29 November 1991 to express their views on the subject-matter.

3. In reply to his request, the Secretary-General received views from the Governments of China and Thailand. These replies are contained in section I of the present report. A reply with comments was also received from the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights of the Organization of American States. This reply is contained in section II. Any further comments will be submitted in addenda to the present report.

I. COMMENTS PROVIDED BY GOVERNMENTS

China

[Original: Chinese]
[17 January 1992]

The United Nations Centre for Human Rights is giving full rein to the important task of coordination of the protection and promotion of human rights and fundamental freedoms. The Chinese Government attaches the highest importance to the work of the Centre and to the cooperation that it has had with the staff of the Centre over the years.

In accordance with article 101 of the Charter of the United Nations, the highest possible regard should be paid in the recruitment of staff to geographical representativeness. The Commission on Human Rights has passed resolutions on the subject on several occasions. Yet there are still problems with the current proportions of staff in the Centre: the representation of certain regions is not at the bottom of their desirable ranges. It is the view of the Chinese Government that if the coordinating efforts of the Centre are to be boosted, the first thing to do is respect the principle of equitable geographical distribution and correct the previous imbalance: in particular, the representation of developing countries needs to be increased.

Next, in keeping with the spirit of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1991/22, adopted at the forty-seventh session, it is important to ensure that no post in the Centre for Human Rights is considered the exclusive preserve of any member State or group of States and to increase the representation of populous States in senior and policy-formulated posts in the Centre.

Thirdly, given that different regions of the world have different legal systems, the Centre ought to have representatives of each system on its staff in order to guarantee its broad representativeness and promote its universality in drawing up programmes, providing advisory services and drafting international human rights documents.

Fourthly, in keeping with General Assembly resolution 45/125, the representation of women, especially women from developing countries, in the Centre needs to be increased.

The Chinese Government hopes that the Secretary-General will, as he extends the powers of the Centre for Human Rights, give full attention to the above points and instruct the Centre to take appropriate action and act in the spirit of the Charter and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights, thereby allowing it full play in its functions.

Thailand

[Original: English]
[13 January 1992]

Thailand supports increasing the representation of developing countries in senior and policy-formulating posts in the Centre.

As the focal point of the United Nations in the field of human rights, the Centre could strengthen its activities in the following manner:

(a) It might serve as a two-way focal point, i.e. in the transmission of information between human rights bodies/organizations and Governments through various procedures having been or to be established by the Commission on Human Rights.

(b) If it obtains the approval of the World Conference on Human Rights, it might produce more analytical works, aimed at fostering international cooperation in the field of human rights in the wider perspective of international relations, with less emphasis on "compliance" with so-called "international standards" and more on methods and incentives for Governments to develop voluntarily and effectively better domestic law and better administration of justice.

(c) Programmes of work in the area of technical assistance and advisory services would also serve to create an atmosphere of cooperation between non-govermental organizations and government agencies.

II. OTHER COMMENTS RECEIVED

Intergovernmental organizations

Inter-American Commission on Human Rights of the Organization of American States

[Original: English]
[27 December 1991]

The view of our Commission is that the work of the Centre can be assured and improved in keeping with burgeoning demands if the United Nations appropriates the necessary resources to allow the Centre to hire necessary staff, particularly from the developing countries, so that the Centre will have the manpower it needs to fulfil its mandate.

Current rules on geographic distribution need not be altered because, as enacted, they will assure the contracting of new staff members from underrepresented countries, thereby strengthening the Centre's endeavours and broadening the geographical representation of its personnel.

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COORDINATING ROLE OF THE CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS WITHIN THE UNITED NATIONS BODIES AND MACHINERY DEALING WITH THE PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Report of the Secretary-General prepared pursuant to Commission resolution 1991/22

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International Movement ATD Fourth World

[23 January 1992]
[Original: French]

Apart from questions connected with the geographical distribution of staff of the Centre for Human Rights, the principal preoccupation of the International Movement ATD Fourth World is what position the future of the poorest populations and families will occupy in the concerns of the Centre's management, over and above and independently of their geographical origin.

World Young Women's Christian Association

[31 January 1992]
[Original: English]

We are naturally much concerned with the promotion of human rights, and in particular with the situation of women, especially young women. We would therefore urge full consideration of all measures directed towards strengthening the work of the Centre. We know that this involves greater attention to new and complex questions in the developing world and that the Centre must give new energies to these questions. We would also be in favour of appropriate measures to integrate women more effectively in the Secretariat. We do not seek preference for women irrespective of merit but we know from experience that women have special needs and problems in the field of human rights and can contribute towards meeting them within the framework of international actions, and we therefore urge that recruitment, and related personnel and structural policies take account of these considerations.

We are particularly concerned, at the moment, with the number of questions of interest to the Centre in strengthening its work.

One of these is the right of the girl child and we very much hope that the Centre can find ways to reinforce action to ensure girls the opportunities and social protection they need to grow into young women, now and in the future. In this connection, we hope that, at all levels, your plans for action will take full account of the need for the international and regional staff of the Centre to work closely with non-governmental organizations concerned with the welfare and development of the girl child in all the different parts of the world.

Another area of concern is refugee women and children and how we can all help to ensure that they are included in human rights activities at the present time. This again, is a field requiring close cooperation at all levels between international and national agencies, their secretariats and non-governmental organizations, and mutual evaluation of results.

Finally, as we look ahead, we feel certain that the Centre must equip itself to confront problems of human rights relating to religious freedoms in a changing world. There again, we would seek your cooperation in helping us

to adapt our work to new needs and situations and would also urge the Centre to orient its own work more effectively to meet those our associations are facing in their day-to-day activities.

We shall be glad to cooperate in any way possible with the implementation of decisions arising from the Commission's resolution on strengthening the activities of the Centre for Human Rights, in particular in relation to steps taken to improve the status of women and children.

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GE.92-10756/8685a

I. COMMENTS PROVIDED BY GOVERNMENTS

Cameroon

[27 January 1992]
[Original: French]

The Cameroon Government supports the process of strengthening the activities of the Centre for Human Rights. Cameroon was a sponsor of the relevant resolution adopted by the Third Committee at the forty-sixth session of the General Assembly.

In accordance with resolution 1991/22 of 5 March 1991, adopted by the Commission on Human Rights, the proposed strengthening should include an increase in the representation of under-represented groups of States, notably the developing countries, in senior and policy-formulating posts.

II. COMMENTS PROVIDED BY NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

International Federation - Terre des Hommes

[3 February 1992]
[Original: French]

The International Federation - Terre des Hommes believes that, to strengthen the activities of the Centre for Human Rights, its budget should first be increased significantly. Its staff should also be increased so as to expedite special procedures among other things. While the principle of equitable geographical distribution is of course very important and fair, it should not hide the fact that staff should be appointed firstly on the basis of professional background, competence and ability to perform the duties of the post in question, which is the basis on which appointments are made in the private sector. Within the limits described above, it would also be desirable for the enhanced functioning of the Centre for Human Rights to see more women appointed to posts of responsibility.

The Centre for Human Rights could also improve its cooperation with other United Nations bodies and agencies, particularly in the area of economic, social and cultural rights. It might also consider developing its contacts with non-governmental organizations at a very practical level by, for example, setting up field projects linked with human rights in the broadest sense, which naturally includes the rights of the child.

Rädda Barnen International

[6 February 1992]
[Original: English]

Rädda Barnen would recommend the establishment of a computerized documentation centre of children's issues related to the Convention on the Rights of the Child. The purpose would be to coordinate information and reports on the implementation of the Convention from Governments, special rapporteurs, United Nations specialized agencies, and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.

Rädda Barnen would suggest that the role of the Centre for Human Rights could be to become the focal point on all aspects of children's rights. It would facilitate the responding to requests from the Committee on the Rights of the Child and others concerned.

Rädda Barnen would also suggest that the Centre for Human Rights start building up the database on children's rights to gain experience on how to coordinate information, create a structure for the database and build networks. This database could then serve as a model for expanding into future databases for other Human Rights Conventions.

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Agenda item 11

FURTHER PROMOTION AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS, INCLUDING THE QUESTION OF THE PROGRAMME AND METHODS OF WORK OF THE COMMISSION

Development of public information activities in the field of human rights, including the World Public Campaign for Human Rights

Report of the Secretary-General

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Introduction

1. In its resolution 1991/24 of 5 March 1991, entitled "Development of public information activities in the field of human rights, including the World Public Information Campaign for Human Rights", the Commission on Human Rights, reaffirming that activities to improve public knowledge in the field of human rights were essential to the fulfilment of the purposes of the United Nations set out in article 1, paragraph 3, of the Charter of the United Nations, and that carefully designed programmes of teaching, education and information were essential to the achievement of lasting respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, and believing that a world public information campaign on human rights was a valuable complement to the activities of the United Nations aimed at the further promotion and protection of human rights worldwide, requested the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission at its forty-eighth session a report on public information activities with special emphasis on the activities of the World Campaign, including details of the costs incurred in 1991 and the budget envisaged for future activities, as well as a further assessment of the impact of the World Campaign activities undertaken by the United Nations in the field of human rights. The present report is submitted in conformity with that request.

2. It may be recalled that in its resolution 43/128 of 8 December 1988 the General Assembly decided to launch the World Public Information Campaign for Human Rights. The launching of the World Campaign was the culminating point of a series of activities carried out worldwide by the United Nations, Governments and non-governmental organizations in order to celebrate the fortieth anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

3. The main objective of the World Campaign is to increase understanding and awareness of human rights and fundamental freedoms and to educate the public on the international human rights machinery and efforts of the United Nations to promote and protect human rights. It aims to build up a universal culture of human rights, one that clearly recognizes that human rights and fundamental freedoms are inherent in the human person without any distinction as to race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.

4. In keeping with these objectives, the United Nations is increasingly developing its information and education programme, since information leading to awareness and knowledge of basic rights and freedoms represents an essential element for the universal implementation of the standards already set in the field of human rights. It is evident that in order to realize one's rights one has to know them. The five main areas of activity of the World Campaign are: preparation and dissemination of printed information and reference materials; workshops, seminars and training courses; fellowships and internships; special human rights observances; promotion activities.

I. CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

A. Printed material

1. Information material

5. In paragraph 9 of resolution 1991/24, the Commission requested the Department of Public Information to increase the print-run of the information and reference material produced by the United Nations, in particular the Fact Sheet series, for worldwide distribution. In keeping with that directive, the Centre for Human Rights continued the issuance of its information material, which is distributed to national and regional human rights institutions, academic and research institutions, the media, non-governmental organizations and concerned individuals.

6. Fact Sheets are translated into the six official United Nations languages and distributed worldwide free of charge. Owing to the increased demand, several Fact Sheets have been reprinted. Nos. 12 to 16 were issued for the first time in 1991. At the time of preparation of this report, the following Fact Sheets were available in all six official United Nations languages:

Fact Sheet No. 1	Human Rights Machinery
Fact Sheet No. 2	The International Bill of Human Rights
Fact Sheet No. 3	Advisory Services and Technical Assistance in the Field of Human Rights
Fact Sheet No. 4	Methods of Combating Torture
Fact Sheet No. 5	Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination
Fact Sheet No. 6	Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances
Fact Sheet No. 7	Communications Procedures
Fact Sheet No. 8	World Public Information Campaign for Human Rights
Fact Sheet No. 9	The Rights of Indigenous Peoples
Fact Sheet No. 10	The Rights of the Child
Fact Sheet No. 11	Summary or Arbitrary Executions
Fact Sheet No. 12	Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination
Fact Sheet No. 13	International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights
Fact Sheet No. 14	Contemporary Forms of Slavery
Fact Sheet No. 15	Civil and Political Rights: The Human Rights Committee

Fact Sheet No. 16 The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, is available in English.

7. The following Fact Sheets are about to be issued:

Fact Sheet No. 17 The Committee against Torture

Fact Sheet No. 18 The Rights of Minorities.

Additional Fact Sheets on migrant workers, human rights and the administration of justice, human rights and police, refugees and human rights, and national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights are under preparation.

8. After the special issue on the fortieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the issue on the implementation of international human rights instruments, three additional volumes of the Bulletin of Human Rights are being published: on special procedures and the role of non-governmental organizations, on humanitarian and refugee law and on the rights of the child.

9. Since the issue of the note by the Secretary-General to the Commission at its forty-seventh session (E/CN.4/1991/22), five new ad hoc publications have been issued and translations in additional languages of existing publications have been provided. The series of ad hoc publications now consists of the following 13 issues:

(i) European Workshop on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights: Past - Present - Future; Proceedings, Milan (Italy), 7-9 September 1988 (English);

(ii) The administration of justice and human rights for East European countries; Report of a United Nations Training Course, Moscow, 21-25 November 1988 (English, French);

(iii) The Teaching of Human Rights; Report of an International Seminar, Geneva, 5-9 December 1988 (English, French);

(iv) The effects of racism and racial discrimination on the social and economic relations between indigenous peoples and States; Report of a Seminar, Geneva, 16-20 January 1989 (English, French);

(v) Application of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights under the Optional Protocol by the Human Rights Committee (English);

(vi) The African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights (English, French);

(vii) Report of an International Consultation on AIDS and Human Rights, Geneva, 26-28 July 1989 (English, French, Spanish);

(viii) United Nations Training Course on International Norms and Standards in the Field of Human Rights; Proceedings, Moscow, 27 November-1 December 1989 (English, French);

(ix) Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination: Global Compilation of National Legislation against Racial Discrimination (English);

(x) The Realization of the Right to Development: Global Consultation on the Right to Development as a Human Right, Geneva, 8-12 January 1990 (English);

(xi) Political, Historical, Economic, Social and Cultural Factors contributing to Racism, Racial Discrimination and Apartheid: Report of a Seminar, Geneva, 10-14 December 1990;

(xii) Manual on Human Rights Reporting, co-produced by the Centre for Human Rights and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (available in English and being issued in the other United Nations official languages);

(xiii) The First Twenty Years - Progress Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (English).

10. The reports of the African Workshop on International Human Rights Standards and the Administration of Justice, Cairo, July 1991, the Workshop on Implementation of International Human Rights Instruments and Reporting Obligations, Moscow, August 1991, and the Training Course on Human Rights Information Handling and Technology, Geneva, October-November 1991, are in the process of being printed. A publication containing the papers presented by experts who participated in the Seminar on International Human Rights Standards and Constitutional Law for specialists from South Africa, held at Geneva from 17 to 20 June 1991, is under preparation. A commentary on the Convention on the Rights of the Child is also being prepared.

11. The Proceedings on the Conference on Human Rights in Constitutional and Statutory Development in Bulgaria, held at Sofia from 21 to 23 January 1991, have been published by the International Human Rights Law Group. The Conference was co-sponsored by the Bulgarian Grand National Assembly, the International Human Rights Law Group and the United Nations Centre for Human Rights.

12. The Human rights newsletter started in 1988, appears in English and French quarterly. Four issues were published in 1991. The Newsletter contains articles on the activity of the United Nations bodies dealing with human rights, as well as the Centre for Human Rights; interviews with experts in the field of human rights; information on training courses, seminars, workshops and other meetings organized by the United Nations; information on the activities of the non-governmental organizations dealing with human rights; book reviews.

13. ABC teaching human rights, issued in 1989 and available in all six official languages, is being reprinted in order to respond to the growing request by teachers' organizations, educational institutions and international organizations.

14. Two additional issues of the Human Rights Study Series were published in 1991. The series now counts five issues, available in the six official United Nations languages:

(i) Right to Adequate Food as a Human Right;

(ii) Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and Discrimination based on Religion or Belief;

(iii) Freedom of the Individual under Law - an Analysis of Article 29 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

(iv) Promotion, Protection and Restoration of Human Rights at the National, Regional and International Levels - Status of the Individual and Contemporary International Law;

(v) Study on the Rights of Persons belonging to Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities. Some five additional studies will be issued in the course of 1992.

15. A new version of the booklet Human Rights: Questions and Answers, especially focused on the World Conference on Human Rights, is under preparation.

16. In paragraph 6 of resolution 1991/24, the Commission on Human Rights urged all Member States to include in their educational curricula materials relevant to a comprehensive understanding of human rights issues and encouraged the efforts of the Centre for Human Rights to develop a manual for higher education in the field of human rights, in cooperation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

17. In keeping with that directive, the Centre for Human Rights is proceeding with the elaboration of a manual on human rights teaching at university level. Coordination meetings with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization have been held at Geneva, Tunis and Paris and the cooperation and advice of international human rights experts has been sought.

18. Numerous language versions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, besides the six official United Nations language versions, have been prepared or are under preparation. They are issued in collaboration with the Department of Public Information which is responsible for printing and distributing them. Over the years, the following versions have been printed: Afrikaans, Albanian, Amharic, Assamese, Bengali, Bulgarian, Burmese, Byelorussian, Catalan, Chamorro, Czech, Danish, Durri, Dutch, Esperanto, Faroese, Finnish, Galician, German, Greek, Greenlandic, Gujarati, Gurmukhi, Haitian Creole, Haussa, Hebrew, Hindi, Hungarian, Icelandic, Indonesian, Irish, Italian, Japanese, Kannada, Kinyarwanda, Kirundi, Lao, Lingala, Macedonian, Malagasi, Maltese, Mahrati, Marshallese, Mayalayam, Malay, Mikmaq, Mongolian, Ndebele, Nepali, Norwegian, Oriya, Palauan, Persian/Farsi, Polish, Ponapean, Portuguese, Pushto/Pakhto, Romanian, Serbo-Croat, Shona, Sinhalese, Slovak, Slovene, Swahili, Swedish, Tagalog/Filipino, Tamil, Telugu, Thai, Trukese, Turkish, Ukrainian, Urdi, Welsh, Yapese.

The following language versions have already been checked and will be printed shortly: Bemba, Estonian, Kagchikel, Kaonda, K'iche, Krelewo, Lozi, Lunda, Luvale, Maninka, Nyanja, Oshiwambo, Pular, Q'eqchi, Tonga, Sosso.

The Centre is currently checking the following versions: Armenian, Aymara, Khmer, Korean, Kwassio, Malaysian, Guarani, Quichua, Rwanda-Rundi, Tibetan, Vietnamese, Zulu.

2. Reference material

19. The reference publications of the Centre for Human Rights are addressed to a more specialized audience. They are also sales publications, and are as follows:

(a) United Nations Action in the Field of Human Rights: this publication, which appears every five years, is the standard United Nations reference work in the field of human rights. The last issue, covering the period from 1945 to 1988, is available in English and Spanish. The French version is in the process of being printed. As requested by the First Preparatory Committee of the World Conference on Human Rights, which met at Geneva in September 1991, an updated version will be published for the World Conference.

(b) Human Rights: A Compilation of International Instruments contains the basic international instruments in the field of human rights. An updated version is being prepared and will be issued in the first months of 1992. Following a recommendation by the First Preparatory Committee of the World Conference, this new version will contain also a selection of existing regional instruments in the field of human rights.

(c) Status of International Instruments in the Field of Human Rights includes more detailed information (such as ratifications, reservations, objections, declarations) on the human rights instruments referred to in the Compilation. Parallel to the updating of the Compilation, an updated version of the Status, containing as well information related to the regional instruments that will be included in the Compilation, is being prepared.

A chart of ratifications appears every six months. The latest was issued in December 1991.

(d) The Yearbook on Human Rights: The issues for the period from 1980 to 1987 are available in English and French. The 1988 and 1989 instalments are being printed and will be published in the course of 1992. The 1990 issue is being finalized.

(e) Official Records of the Human Rights Committee (formerly United Nations Yearbook of the Human Rights Committee). The 1981-1982 edition of the Yearbook of the Human Rights Committee is available in English and French. The 1983-1984 edition has been issued in English, and the French version is in preparation. The 1985-1986 and 1987-1988 editions are in the process of being printed.

(f) Human Rights Committee - Selected Decisions under the Optional Protocol: Volume 1 (second to sixteenth sessions) is available in English, French and Spanish. Volume 2 (seventeenth to thirty-second sessions) is available in English; the Spanish version is being printed. The Arab, Chinese, French and Russian versions are in preparation.

(g) A comprehensive Bibliography of United Nations documents on human rights issues, covering a 10-year period from 1980 to 1989, is being prepared in cooperation with the United Nations Library. It will include reports and studies; resolutions and decisions of main United Nations organs, as well as those of the Commission and the Sub-Commission; periodic reports of States parties to the various human rights treaties; selected periodic series; selected statements and communications by non-governmental organizations; selected decisions and notes verbales from Governments.

B. Training courses, seminars and workshops

20. In resolution 1991/24, the Commission noted the special value, under the advisory services and technical assistance programme, of regional and national training courses and workshops in promoting practical education and awareness in the field of human rights. The seminars, training courses and workshops listed below were organized by the Centre in 1991, often in cooperation with Governments, regional and national organizations and, non-governmental organizations. These meetings also served the aims of the World Public Information Campaign for Human Rights, increasing knowledge and awareness of human rights and fundamental freedoms. More detailed information about these training courses, seminars and workshops is to be found in the report of the Secretary-General on advisory services in the field of human rights (E/CN.4/1992/49; paras. 77-80).

(i) Workshop on Human Rights, Jakarta, 21 and 22 January 1991, organized in conjunction with the Department of Foreign Affairs of Indonesia;

(ii) A conference on "Human rights in constitutional and statutory development in Bulgaria", Sofia, 21-23 January 1991, co-sponsored by the Bulgarian Grand National Assembly, the International Human Rights Law Group, in association with the Bulgarian Association for Fair Elections and Civil Rights;

(iii) Human Rights Workshop, Windhoek and Swakopmund, Namibia, 18 to 24 February 1991, organized and co-sponsored with the Namibian Ministry of Justice, the Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law and the Swedish International Development Authority (SIDA);

(iv) Training course on international human rights standards and the administration of justice for officials of French-speaking African countries, San Remo, Italy, 11-15 March 1991, in cooperation with the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute, the Italian Government and the International Institute of Humanitarian Law of San Remo;

(v) At the request of the Portuguese Government, a workshop for Portuguese-speaking countries on the teaching of human rights, for teachers and for officials of ministries of foreign affairs, justice and education, Lisbon, 8-12 April 1991;

(vi) Seminar on Traditional Practices affecting the Health of Women and Children, Ouagadougou, 29 April-3 May 1991 (the conclusions and recommendations of the Seminar are to be found in document E/CN.4/Sub.2/1991/48);

(vii) Seminar on International Human Rights Standards and Constitutional Law for specialists from South Africa, Geneva, 17-20 June 1991, in close cooperation with the Centre Against Apartheid; the papers presented by the experts will be collected and published as an ad hoc publication (see para. 9);

(viii) National training course on the implementation of United Nations mechanisms in the field of human rights, Brasilia, 17-19 June 1991, organized with the Government of Brazil;

(ix) A national training course on the implementation of United Nations mechanisms in the field of human rights, including international humanitarian law, Caracas, 25-28 June 1991, in cooperation with the Government of Venezuela;

(x) African Workshop on International Human Rights Standards and the Administration of Justice, Cairo, 8-12 July 1991, organized under the programme of technical cooperation between the Centre and the Organization of African Unity (OAU), with the collaboration of the Egyptian Government, and addressed to high-ranking officers of ministries of justice, foreign affairs and the interior;

(xi) National Workshop on International Human Rights Instruments and Reporting Obligations: Preparation of Reports to United Nations Human Rights Treaty Bodies, Moscow, 26-30 August 1991, the Centre for Human Rights, in cooperation with the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries, and with the support of the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics; a report of the workshop is being published as part of the Centre's ad hoc series of publications (see para. 14);

(xii) Seminar on International Human Rights Standards, for the judges of the Romanian Supreme Court, Bucharest, 23-25 September 1991, organized in cooperation with the Supreme Court and the Romanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs; on 24 September 1991, a briefing was organized in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Romania on the United Nations human rights programme and non-governmental organizations for a wide range of Romanian non-governmental organizations;

(xiii) Meeting of experts to review the experience of countries in the operation of schemes of internal self-government for indigeneous populations, Nuuk, Greenland, 24-28 September 1991; the report of the meeting can be found in document E/CN.4/1992/42;

(xiv) International Workshop on National Institutions on Human Rights, Paris, 7-9 October 1991, in cooperation with the French National Consultative Commission and with the support of the Government of France; the report of the Seminar is contained in document E/CN.4/1992/43;

(xv) A training course on human rights information handling and technology, Geneva, 21 October-1 November 1991, in cooperation with the Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law, the Centre for Human Rights, the United Nations Library at the Palais des Nations and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees; the report of the training course will be issued soon as an ad hoc publication (see para. 9);

(xvi) Training course on international human rights standards and national legislation, Ulan Bator, 28 October-1 November 1991, organized in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Relations of Mongolia;

(xvii) Training course for law enforcement officials, La Valetta, Malta, 9-19 December 1991, organized in cooperation with the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch and UNICRI;

(xviii) Latin American Seminar on Human Rights, Democracy, Economic and Social Development, Santiago, 9-13 December 1991, organized in cooperation with the Government of Chile; the proceedings of the meeting will be issued as a United Nations publication;

C. Cooperation in the organization of and participation in other training courses, workshops and activities

21. Throughout 1991, the Centre for Human Rights co-sponsored, cooperated in the organization of or actively participated in more than 100 conferences, workshops, seminars, training courses, consultations and other meetings held all over the world. Participation in these events provided the opportunity to explain the aims and objectives of the World Public Information Campaign and to disseminate information on human rights issues. A list of these activities is attached as annex I.

D. Fellowships and internships

22. An unprecedented number of applications for the fellowship programme were received for 1991: 63 Governments proposed 92 candidates, of whom 41 were selected, on the basis of equitable geographic distribution, with priority being given, inter alia, to applicants from developing countries and to allocating a fair share of the fellowships to women. Details of the 1991 fellowship programme are provided in paragraphs 62 to 74 of the report on advisory services (E/CN.4/1992/49).

23. In the course of 1991, more than 75 internships were offered to outstanding graduate students to gain first-hand knowledge of United Nations action and procedures in the field of human rights through active participation in the work of the Centre for Human Rights, under the direct supervision of senior officials. Internships do not entail financial commitments of any kind by the Centre for Human Rights or the United Nations. The restructuring of the internship programme undertaken last year has permitted an improvement in the present system of responsibility for interns and the content of the internship programme.

II. DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INFORMATION

24. To further the objectives of the World Public Information Campaign on Human Rights to increase understanding and awareness of human rights and fundamental freedoms, the Department of Public Information (DPI) was requested by the Commission in paragraph 9 of its resolution 1991/24 to make full use of its available resources in the field of human rights in order to update and expand its stock of audio-visual materials on human rights. It also requested the Department to increase the print-run of information and reference materials for worldwide distribution.

25. As the Department that has primary responsibility for information activities, DPI coordinates the public information activities of the World Campaign and, as secretariat to the Joint United Nations Information Committee, promotes system wide information activities in the field of human rights. The Department continues to employ a coordinated multimedia approach to ensure the effective coverage of human rights activities as well as worldwide distribution of relevant information materials.

26. In the 1992-1993 programme budget, the Department continues to have a mandate under the thematic heading of human rights. It also continues to have mandates in such related areas as social, cultural and economic rights, and the rights of specific groups, and on other major issues, including activities against apartheid, the question of Palestine, self-determination, decolonization and the advancement of women. The Department's relevant activities are regularly reported to the General Assembly and to other intergovernmental bodies under each specific area or issue.

A. Activities in the field of human rights during 1990-1991

27. The multimedia approach of the Department in the field of human rights can be grouped into three broad areas: products, services and dissemination of information. These areas include: printed material; film, radio and television; photos and exhibits; press coverage including press conferences; media liaison; public inquiries; special events and activities; collaboration with non-governmental organizations; utilization of the resources of the 67 United Nations information centres and services; and inter-agency co-productions.

28. It should be noted that most of these activities, in such areas as radio and television, photos and exhibits, press coverage including press conferences, media liaison, public inquiries, the visitors' service, non-governmental organizations, United Nations information centres and services; and inter-agency co-productions, are not under the programme budget thematic heading of human rights and are therefore funded under other sections of the budget.

29. As reported to the Commission last year, originally under the thematic heading of human rights the Department was allocted $416,700 for the last biennium. However, $9,400 was added from the Special Programmes budget to increase the amount, which then totalled $426,100 for the 1990-1991 biennium.

30. In the biennium 1990-1991, the activities specifically mandated under the theme of human rights included: commemoration of Human Rights Day ($7,000); production of an illustrated text of the Convention on the Rights of the Child ($26,100); a 30-minute documentary about the work of the United Nations in the field of human rights ($162,000); production of 10 local language versions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights ($28,000); an educational video and study guide ($75,000); reprints and new language production of human rights instruments ($34,000); an international media round table on human rights for journalists ($45,000); production in Arabic, Chinese and Russian of a booklet entitled Human Rights: Questions and Answers ($28,600); publication of the biannual subscription and sales publication entitled Objective: Justice ($20,400); and continued acquisition of documentation and development of reference services on human rights at the libraries of the United Nations information centres and services.

31. A number of special events were organized at Headqarters to commemorate Human Rights Day on 10 December 1991. These included a Human Rights Day programme, sponsored by the Committee on Security and Independence of the International Civil Service, United Nations Staff Union, New York; the opening of the exhibition "Auschwitz: A Crime Against Humanity", both on 10 December; a special panel discussion on the occasion of Human Rights Day and the twenty fifth anniversary of the International Covenants on Human Rights and the premier screening of "New Horizons for Human Rights", a new film produced by the Department of Public Information, on 12 December; and the commemoration meeting of the General Assembly on the occasion of the anniversary of the International Covenants, on 16 December.

32. Among the new publications the Department completed in 1991 were: an illustrated publication on the Convention on the Rights of the Child (DPI/1101), in the six official languages; and a publication on the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (DPI/1055), in the six official languages.

33. One of the Department's major productions completed in 1991 was a 30-minute documentary film on human rights entitled "New Horizons for Human Rights". The film now available in English, will also soon be distributed in Arabic, French and Spanish.

34. Production of local language versions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights continued. Of the local language versions provided by the Centre for Human Rights to the Department in 1990-1991, 16 were printed during the biennium with the assistance of United Nations information centres and services. These included: Albanian, Burmese, Filipino, Finnish, Greek, Haitian Creole, Hausa, Hungarian, Indonesian, Maninka, Mikmaq, Portuguese (Brazilian), Pular, Romanian, Serbian and Sinhalese. It should be mentioned that several United Nations information centres have also reported the printing of local language versions of other human rights instruments and documents.

35. As part of the About the United Nations educational video series, the Department completed a video and an accompanying teaching guide on human rights, specifically the rights of the child. This video kit is available to academic institutions, non-governmental organizations and speakers on the United Nations.

36. In 1991 the Department began or completed 16 reprints and/or new official language productions of seven human rights instruments. These include: Principles of Medical Ethics (DPI/801), in Arabic and Russian; Declaration of the Right of Peoples to Peace (DPI/844), Arabic, Chinese and French; Declaration of the Human Rights of Individuals who are not Nationals of the Country in which they Live (DPI/894), in Russian; Declaration on Social and Legal Principles relating to the Protection and Welfare of Children, with Special Reference to Foster Placement and Adoption Nationally and Internationally (DPI/914), in Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian and Spanish; Human Rights: Questions and Answers (DPI/919), in Chinese and Spanish; Universal Declaration of Human Rights poster (DPI/936), in Spanish; and Human Rights and Social and Economic Development: A Selection of Publications (DPI/1028), in French and Spanish.

37. The DPI International Journalists Round Table on Human Rights and the United Nations was held at Headquarters in New York from 14 to 16 October 1991. Five main topics were taken up in half-day sessions, consisting of presentations by main speakers and panel discussions, followed by questions and answer periods. The topics were: "United Nations action to protect and promote human rights", with as keynote speaker the Under-Secretary-General for Human Rights; "Human rights and AIDS/HIV", with as main speaker the Deputy Director of the WHO Global Programme on Aids, World Health Organization; "Peace, international humanitarian law and humanitarian issues", with as main speaker the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees; "Social Justice and Economic Disparities", with the Director General of the United Nations Office at Vienna and Head of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs; and "Freedom of the press and safety of journalists", with the Executive Director of the Committee to Protect Journalists. The panel for each topic included United Nations officials, diplomats, journalists and experts from leading non-governmental organizations. Some 60 journalists from all regions attended. Among the participants were the 14 journalists who attended the DPI training programme for broadcasters and journalists from developing countries, being held in New York from 16 September to 25 October.

38. The Round Table provided an opportunity for expanded contacts and collaboration between the Department of Public Information and the International Committee of the Red Cross, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the World Health Organization, other United Nations agencies and offices, leading non-governmental organizations in the field of human rights and media organizations. This strengthened collaboration will greatly benefit the planning of future human rights-related activities.

39. The booklet Human Rights: Questions and Answers has now been printed in Arabic, Russian and Chinese in addition to English, French and Spanish.

40. The Department continues to issue Objective: Justice, a biannual subscription and sales publication. Its recent issues have focused on such issues as the International Covenants, the specialists who monitor human rights, racism and protecting the rights of migrant workers.

41. In paragraph 3 of its resolution 1991/24, the Commission requested the Secretary-General to ensure that recent periodic reports of States parties to treaty monitoring bodies and the summary records of discussion of them in treaty bodies be available in the United Nations information centres of the countries which had submited them. The Centre for Human Rights informed the Department of Public Information in September that arrangements had been made for the Distribution and Sales Section at the United Nations Office at Geneva to provide all United Nations information offices with copies of relevant documentation. The Department subsequently informed all Centres of the arrangements and requested that they publicize the availability of these documents in their area(s), with special emphasis in those countries which had submitted reports to the treaty bodies.

42. The Department continued its efforts to ensure comprehensive documentation and reference services on human rights for various users at the libraries of United Nations information centres and services. In pursuance of paragraph 4 of Commission resolution 1991/24, DPI finalized, in cooperation with the Centre for Human Rights, a basic list of reference and information material on human rights. The replies received from the United Nations information offices were consolidated in 1991 and a comprehensive list was given to the Centre to enable it to provide basic documentation to the information centres that lack certain documentation on this issue. A chart indicating the status of basic human rights documentation at United Nations information centres and services is attached as annex II.

43. Four of the Department's feature articles issued during 1991 under the title United Nations Focus, in English, French and Spanish, have dealt with human rights issues. Numerous others have dealt with human rights-related subjects, including the rights of women. The four articles were entitled: "Searching for the pernicious roots of racism" (DPI/1150); "Human Rights Covenants" (DPI/1153); "Specialists who monitor human rights" (DPI/1155); and "The trade of shame: the sale of children" (DPI/1156). Two other articles, entitled "The limits of sovereignty" and "Traditional practices", were prepared for publication in early 1992.

44. The short animated film entitled "Brushstrokes", released by the Department in 1990, received two awards in early 1991 from the Association internationale d'animation. This film on prejudice is available in Arabic, English, French and Spanish.

45. In keeping with its role of coordinating the public information activities of the World Public Information Campaign on Human Rights, the Department submitted a proposal to the Joint United Nations Information Committee at its thirty-fifth session in New York in June to establish an inter-agency working group on human rights. It was recommended that DPI arrange an ad hoc group at Headquarters. Emphasis will be placed on the preparations for the 1993 World Conference on Human Rights and on the International Year for the World's Indigenous People in 1993.

46. In preparation for the first session of the Preparatory Committee for the World Conference on Human Rights in September 1991, the Department proposed a public information programme and information coverage requirements for the World Conference. The information programme for the World Conference was adopted by the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session.

47. The Department's regular publications, including United Nations Chronicle, Yearbook of the United Nations, Development Forum and African Recovery, as well as Objective: Justice, continued to devote articles, including cover stories, to human rights.

48. The Department included human rights issues in two of its weekly briefings for non-governmental organizations in 1991. More than 1,200 non-governmental organizations worldwide are associated directly with the Department. More than 175 representatives of these organizations regularly attend the weekly briefings at Headquarters.

49. In addition to developing new information products about human rights and conducting regular briefings for non-governmental organizations, the Department meets requests for documents and information material about human rights, develops contacts with the media, and cooperates with other United Nations offices and non-governmental organizations by participating in, co-sponsoring and/or organizing events.

50. It should be noted that the Department's Public Inquiries Unit received almost 1,000 requests for information on human rights in 1991. The focal point on human rights in the Department's Communications and Project Management Division received an average of 50 requests per month for human rights information and publications during 1991 (compared to 30 per month in 1990). The Dissemination Division of the Department distributed 181,861 copies of the Department's human rights publications last year in bulk quantities (compared to 157,565 in 1990). The Visitor's Service at Headquarters arranged for 28 in-house briefings on human rights for a total of 1,539 people. In addition, information on United Nations work in the field of human rights was given to around 460,000 visitors to the United Nations Headquarters in New York.

51. In 1991 the Department regularly included information material pertaining to human rights and related issues in its weekly radio and television programmes in official and non-official languages. In addition to numerous short items and interviews on human rights issues in its current affairs radio magazine, the Department produced 28 special features (compared to 18 in 1990) on this theme. Those programmes on the "United Nations and the human rights situation in South Africa" in the "One South Africa" radio series are broadcast in English, Sesotho, Setswana, Xhosa and Zulu. Human rights and related issues were also included in the Department's other news and current affairs radio programmes, such as Perspective, which is broadcast to some 350 radio stations worldwide. The topics included: international instruments dealing with civil and political rights, the right to development, the right of people to peace, the rights of the child, protection of the rights of migrant workers and the elimination of discrimination against women; the United Nations and human rights; and the human rights situation in South Africa, El Salvador and other countries.

52. The Department's video and television programmes, such as UN in Action, and programmes produced for CNN World Report, which are seen weekly in more than 120 countries, also include human rights issues. World Chronicle, a weekly television programme produced by the Department, featured special guests from the human rights field, including Rosalyn Higgins and Ambassador Andreas Mavrommatis, two experts on the Human Rights Committee. The latter programme, which is aired on over 150 channels around the United States and is regularly used by United Nations information centres, especially in Brazil, Indonesia, Japan, the Philippines and Trinidad, has featured guests prominent in the field of human rights.

53. During the past year the Department continued to give full press, radio and television coverage to the proceedings of all United Nations intergovernmental bodies dealing with human rights, such as the Commission on Human Rights and its various committees and working groups, the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Committee against Torture and the work of special rapporteurs. As inprevious years, the United Nations Information Service at Geneva highlighted the work of the Commission and other human rights bodies. A report of the activities of UNIS Geneva is found in section B below.

B. Activities of information centres and services

1. United Nations Information Service at Geneva

54. During the reporting period, the United Nations Information Service continued to cover, through print and radio and audio-visual programmes, the proceedings of all United Nations intergovernmental bodies dealing with human rights which took place at Geneva: a total of 11,900 publications on the general issue of human rights were distributed. In addition, the following numbers of publications were distributed: 1,380 on racial discrimination, 1,200 on women's issues, 800 on apartheid and 3,200 on the rights of the child, as well as 588 press releases (313 English, 275 French) on human rights questions. Press conferences and interviews were conducted with personalities engaged in activities in support of human rights. Special events were organized by the Information Service in observance of international days and weeks on human rights-related issues.

55. As part of the Graduate Study Programme organized by the Information Service in July 1991 for 83 graduate students from 49 countries, the activities of the United Nations for the promotion and the protection of human rights were prominently featured in a two-day seminar. In addition, a round table devoted to women's issues in the United Nations system was also organized.

(a) Activities in support of the work of United Nations intergovernmental bodies dealing with human rights

56. As in previous years, the United Nations Information Service at Geneva has highlighted the work of the Commission on Human Rights, which held its forty-seventh session from 28 January to 8 March 1991 at the Palais des Nations. On that occasion, the Service accredited 33 visiting journalists, in addition to the permanent press corps of some 200 journalists accredited to the United Nations Office at Geneva. Several press conferences on the

Commission were organized, including one for the Under-Secretary-General for Human Rights before the opening of the session and two for the Chairman of the Commission. Meetings and briefings for non-governmental organizations were also organized in connection with the session.

57. Among the various activities of UNIS, Geneva were:

(a) Thirty-four news packages including interviews and/or backgrounders produced during meetings of the Commission;

(b) One news package on the Sub-Commission on the Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities;

(c) One news package on the opening of the Preparatory Committee for the World Conference on Human Rights;

(d) Seven interviews on the rights of the child;

(e) Twenty-seven news packages including interviews and/or backgrounders produced on human rights, mostly during Commission meetings; and

(f) Forty negatives and nine photos produced on human rights issues.

58. The year 1991 was particularly heavy for the Information Service from the point of view of coverage of human rights meetings. The Service provided full coverage, in English and French, of the sessions of the following bodies:

(a) Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices in the Occupied Territories (7-10 January and 19-23 August);

(b) Commission on Human Rights, forty-seventh session (28 January-8 March);

(c) Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, thirty-ninth session (4-22 March);

(d) Committee against Torture, sixth session (22 April-3 May) and seventh session (11-22 November);

(e) Human Rights Committee, forty-second session (8-26 July) and forty-third session (21 October-8 November);

(f) Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, forty-third session (5-30 August);

(g) Preparatory Committee for the World Conference on Human Rights, first session (9-16 September);

(h) Committee on the Rights of the Child, first session (30 September-18 October); and

(i) Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, sixth session (25 November-13 December).

59. Human rights activities were also highlighted in the Semaine Internationale/Weekly Review prepared by the Service. Non-governmental organization briefings with the Chairmen and Bureau members of these bodies were held regularly.

60. In addition, international days devoted to human rights questions such as on the elimination of racial discrimination and on solidarity with the Palestinian people were publicized and covered. Furthermore, some of the subsidiary human rights bodies such as working groups on specific questions received limited coverage. The spokesman drew attention to developments and activities on human rights during the twice-weekly press briefings.

61. A total of 313 press releases in English and 275 in French were prepared by the Press Unit for dissemination at Geneva and elsewhere in the United Nations system.

62. Press conferences were organized by the Information Service in connection with the work of all the above-mentioned intergovernmental bodies.

(b) Information activities in observance of international human rights days and weeks and in connection with other special events

63. International Women's Day (8 March) was devoted to refugee women. The Service, in collaboration with the Group on Equal Rights for Women, organized a celebration with the participation of Sadako Ogata, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Jan Martenson, Director-General of the United Nations Office at Geneva and others. Films and videos on refugee women were screened. An art, photo and poster exhibit was inaugurated.

64. A round table in observance of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (21 March) was organized by the Service. Representatives of permanent missions, journalists, non-governmental organizations and staff members participated in this event.

65. To commemorate the tenth anniversary of the entry into force of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Service organized a panel discussion on 9 September 1991 to examine and evaluate the application of the Convention. The panelists included: H.E. Ambassador Mervat Tallawy, Permanent Representative of the Arab Republic of Egypt to the United Nations Office at Vienna and Chairperson of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women in Geneva; Ann Herdt, President of the NGO Subcommittee on the Status of Women in Geneva; Loic Picard, Senior Officer, Interntional Labour Standards Department, International Labour Organisation; and Rukia Hanna-Hussen, Focal Point for Women at the United Nations Office at Geneva.

66. To commemorate the forty-third anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which coincided with the twenty-fifth anniversary of the adoption of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Information Service organized a series of events, as follows:

(a) A commemorative ceremony devoted to "The Human Rights Covenants and the Optional Protocol 25 Years Later". The programme included a message from the Secretary-General and statements by Jan Martenson, Under-Secretary-General for Human Rights; F. Pocar, Chairman of the Human Rights Committee; P. Alston, Chairman of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; and J. Hausermann, Rights and Humanity, International Movement for the Promotion and Realization of Human Rights and Responsibility, on behalf of the NGO community;

(b) A collection of lithographs depicting the articles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was exhibited in the Salle des Pas Perdus at the Palais des Nations;

(c) A piano recital was given by Nelson Goerner, the Argentinean soloist, on 9 December.

2. United Nations centres and services worldwide

67. The network of 67 United Nations information centres and services also undertook special information activities in observance of Human Rights Day and other human rights events. These included mounting document, photographic and poster exhibitions; showing films for various audiences; producing background material, fact sheets, information kits and newsletters containing articles on human rights and related issues; disseminating relevant information materials from Headquarters such as information and press kits, background notes, press releases and official documents and translating them into local languages, as appropriate; organizing or assisting in events, meetings, public gatherings and briefings; participating in seminars, panels and lectures for educational and other institutions and giving interviews to local media.

68. As at 8 January 1992, reports had been received at Headquarters in New York from 18 United Nations information centres and services concerning their activities to mark Human Rights Day in December 1991. Information was received from Algiers, Brazzaville, Brussels, Bucharest, Dakar, Dhaka, Geneva, Harare, Islamabad, Jakarta, Lagos, La Paz, Lisbon, Manila, Moscow, Ouagadougou, Prague and Washington, D.C.

69. The Information Centre at Algiers reported that it collaborated with the local university in organizing an exhibition of information materials for distribution to students and professors as well as in showing human rights films. It reported wide dissemination of the message of the Secretary-General on the occasion of Human Rights Day and provided clippings on local media attention given to Human Rights Day.

70. At Brazzaville, the Information Centre organized a film screening and a discussion on the United Nations for 70 people, mainly journalists and representatives of non-governmental organizations. The message of the Secretary-General was read by the Resident Representative of the United Nations Development Programme. Extensive radio and television attention to Human Rights Day was reported. The Centre also distributed copies of the Secretary-General's message and other relevant United Nations materials.

71. The Information Centre at Brussels reported a major Human Rights Day event organized by the city of Waremme, at which the Director of the Centre was the keynote speaker. The ceremony included an official presentation of the first copy of the Universal Declaration in Walloon. The ceremony was followed by the official opening of the local UNICEF and the United Nations Association headquarters. Other Human Rights Day events in which the Centre was involved included the opening of an international photo exhibit, a Human Rights Day concert organized by Amnesty International and a ceremony at which the first Human Rights Award, given by the Belgian Dutch-speaking Human Rights League, was presented. The Centre also extended its cooperation to other Human Rights Day activities in Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands.

72. The Information Centre at Bucharest reported cooperating with a number of governmental and non-governmental organizations in Romania. Among the activities it reported for 1991 were the translation and printing in Romanian of a number of basic human rights documents and international instruments and other information materials for use by schools and university professors. It also provided background information and messages of the Secretary-General to the local media on the occasion of international human rights days and events. It reported on a number of articles on human rights published in the local press, as well as radio and television reports regarding United Nations human rights meetings. The Centre also participated in and/or assisted with pertinent documentation for nine major human rights seminars and round tables during the year. It arranged some 17 film screenings on human rights for various institutions and groups, and organized numerous small exhibits and displays of United Nations posters, wallsheets, publications and documents dealing with human rights.

73. The Information Centre at Dakar organized a special performance on Goree Island, on the occasion of Human Rights Day. The first programme to be held in a house formerly occupied by slaves featured a show staged by Charles Foster, a well-known Senegalese artist. It included a reading of the 30 articles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and songs by the Senegalese choir Elite Vocale which gave moving renditions of songs on slavery and human rights. The Centre also disseminated a press release on Human Rights Day, and the Director was interviewed for the international channel of Radio Senegal. In conjunction with the Day, the Centre mounted an exhibition in the hall of the national theatre with the participation of 10 local non-governmental organizations, including SOS Village. Within the framework of the 30-minute radio programme that the Centre produces each week, two thirds of the time was devoted to human rights. The Centre distributed seven DPI human rights publications and three produced by the Centre for Human Rights to visitors on Human Rights Day.

74. At Dhaka, the Information Centre organized a morning discussion group, with the Institute for Law and Development, and an evening seminar, with the United Nations Association of Bangladesh, on Human Rights Day. These and other events were attended by high-ranking officials and personalities. Wide media coverage was given to Human Rights Day activities in the country.

75. The Information Centre is Islamabad participated in special Human Rights Day activities, including a one-day seminar on "Minorities in Pakistan", attended by noted constitutional experts, lawyers, human rights activists,

social workers, journalists and intellectuals. It launched a large publicity campaign to highlight human rights and encourage observance of the occasion. Four human rights articles in the Department's United Nations Focus series were translated into Urdu and distributed to Urdu-language newspapers and educational institutions, on the occasion of Human Rights Day. The Centre reported prominent press coverage of the materials it provided: the printing of the International Bill of Human Rights and of special articles and editorials. Special radio programmes were also produced by local radio and television stations.

76. The Information Centre in Jakarta marked Human Rights Day by distributing press information containing the message of the Secretary-General and the Department's feature article "The International Human Rights Covenants: 25 Years Later". It also provided posters and print materials to students, non-governmental organizations and governmental officials. Jakarta International School screened the Amnesty International film on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, supplied by the Department, for more than 300 students and another screening is planned for late January 1992. The Centre also reported wide media interest in human rights issues and coverage of Human Rights Day activities.

77. In Lagos, the Information Centre sent a note verbale to the Ministry of External Affairs, drawing the attention of the Government to the observance of Human Rights Day. It also contacted local associations, unions and human rights and other non-governmental organizations. It issued a special press release drawing attention to the coming observance and inviting the media to give coverage to the events. The Centre organized a special outdoor ceremony on 10 December which featured speakers from the Government and six leading non-governmental organizations. The Centre also used the occasion to award a prize to the winners of the special United Nations Day essay competition it had organized for secondary school students on the subject "The United Nations in Nigeria". The six prize-winners, three in the senior and three in the junior categories, received copies of the Charter of the United Nations and other United Nations information materials.

78. The Information Centre in La Paz organized a special ceremony to mark Human Rights Day, at which the message of the Secretary-General was read. With the assistance of Radio San Gabriel, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in the Aymara language version was widely distributed in areas where the language is spoken. Radio San Gabriel also assisted the Centre with a campaign, also in Aymara, on human rights for women in rural areas. This was based on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. The Centre also distributed human rights materials prepared by the Department to the media, non-governmental organizations and educational institutions.

79. In Lisbon, the Information Centre reported on a seminar organized in late November entitled "Human Rights in the Middle East - A Multicultural Dialogue". The seminar was attended by Liviu Bota of the United Nations Centre for Human Rights, who spoke on behalf of the Under-Secretary-General for Human Rights. The background of the work of the United Nations in the field of human

rights was explained. The seminar was attended by more than 30 persons from 7 countries in the Middle East and Europe, the United Nations and non-governmental organizations.

80. The Information Centre in Manila collaborated with human rights groups and non-governmental organizations, including the United Nations Association of the Philippines, in holding public meetings, symposia and exhibits on the occasion of Human Rights Day. It co-sponsored a major symposium, with the United Nations Association of the Philippines and the City of Manila University, on the topic "Human Rights in the Philippines". More than 1,000 teachers and students of the university attended the symposium. The Director of the Centre spoke on behalf of the Under-Secretary-General for Human Rights on the topic "The Protection of Human Rights in the Context of the Right to Development" at the Symposium on Human Rights and Development in Manila, organized by the Organization mondiale contre la torture in collaboration with two local non-governmental organizations. Among other special activities during that same week, the UNIC Director addressed a national congress of the Caucus of Development NGO Networks on the role of non-governmental organizations in the United Nations, and spoke on "Human Rights and International Law" at an activity organized by the Integrated Bar of the Philippines (Kalookan-Malabon-Navotas Chapter). The Centre reported that the extensive media coverage of Human Rights Day included a special television programme on Channel 2 by Loren Legarda, who attended the Department's International Journalists Round Table on Human Rights and the United Nations, held in New York in October 1991.

81. In Moscow, the Information Centre reported the involvement of its staff in the Human Rights Festival, the main Human Rights Day event with charity concert that took place in the Kremlin Palace of Congresses. The organizers and sponsors of the event were non-governmental organizations including XXI Century and the United Nations Association of the Soviet Union in cooperation with the All-Union Television and Radio Broadcasting Company. Enayat Houshmand of the United Nations Centre for Human Rights was among the high-level guests invited to attend the Festival and related human rights events and meetings. The Director of the Centre participated in a televised round table on human rights problems and United Nations activities in the field.

82. The Information Centre in Ouagadougou reported on a number of its human rights activities during 1991. These included participation in the African Regional Seminar on Traditional Practices affecting the Health of Women and Children (29 April to 3 May); in the International Colloquium on the theme "Africa: human rights and health" (19 to 20 October); and the International Colloquium on the theme "International instruments to protect and promote human rights in Africa" (28 to 30 October). The Centre reported wide media use of the Department's radio programmes on human rights issues as well as television programmes using the Department's and other United Nations human rights information, such as UN in Action films. It arranged film showings, widely distributed information materials on human rights and provided briefings on human rights issues.

83. On the occasion of Human Rights Day, the Information Centre in Prague carried out, initiated and/or co-sponsored a number of activities and events,

including: a two-day seminar on human rights with the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences; a ceremony in the National Library Hall of the Prague Klementium featuring a lecture by the Foreign Minister on the subject "Human rights and national sovereignty - is the balance shifting?"; a mail campaign distributing human rights materials including brochures on the Singapore Symposium, copies of the International Bill of Human Rights and the DPI booklet Questions and Answers on Human Rights. The message of the Secretary-General on the occasion of Human Rights Day was reproduced in English and Czech and distributed to the media. The Centre also mounted a small exhibition of posters and photos on this occasion. Extensive press coverage of human rights-related issues was reported.

84. The Information Centre in Washington, D.C. reported that its activities centred around the visit of Thomas E. McCarthy of the United Nations Centre for Human Rights. Events began with a press conference featuring Mr. McCarthy, arranged by the Centre with the Voice of America. He was then guest speaker at a Human Rights Day luncheon organized by the United Nations Association for some 200 participants. He also gave a television briefing on the United Nations and human rights in Cuba for "Worldnet".

C. Budget envisaged for future activities

85. For the biennium 1992-1993, it was proposed that the Department of Public Information should carry out a number of activities under the thematic heading of human rights. These are:

(a) Commemoration of Human Rights Day in 1992 and in 1993;

(b) Production and distribution of an information kit on emerging human rights issues, in English, French and Spanish;

(c) Production and reprints of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in local language versions;

(d) Production and reprints of selected human rights instruments in various official languages;

(e) Continued publication of Objective: Justice in English;

(f) Production of a poster and public service announcements for the International Year of the World's Indigenous People;

(g) Production of a poster for the International Year of the World's Indigenous People, in all official languages; and

(h) Convening of a journalists encounter on human rights issues and the United Nations.

86. It was originally proposed that $277,300 should be allocated to activities under this heading. However, the final sum will be subject to confirmation based on the decisions taken by the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session on the proposed programme budget of the Department. It is expected that there will be a reduction in the funding available to most of the Department's activities, including its human rights activities.

87. The Department has been mandated by the General Assembly to carry out additional activities within the budget of the World Conference on Human Rights in 1993. For the Department's information programme and coverage requirements, the General Assembly at its last session approved $400,000 within the present biennium.

III. COORDINATION AND COOPERATION WITHIN AND OUTSIDE THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM

88. In paragraph 10 of resolution 1991/24, the Commission on Human Rights requested the Centre for Human Rights to coordinate as necessary, taking fully into account General Assembly resolution 43/128 and, in particular, the primary role assigned to the Department of Public Information in its own field of competence, the relevant activities of the World Public Information Campaign for Human Rights within the United Nations system, and to maintain liaison with Governments, regional and national institutions and individuals concerned in the development and implementation of those activities. It also emphasized, in paragraph 13, the need for the United Nations to harmonize its public information activities with organizations such as the International Committee of the Red Cross and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in the relevant fields of competence.

89. In keeping with this resolution, on 18 April 1991 the Centre for Human Rights convened in Geneva the third inter-agency meeting on human rights issues. The meeting allowed participants to review joint projects and exchange information on a number of ongoing activities regarding advisory services and technical cooperation as well as information, documentation and education in the field of human rights carried out by the respective organizations. Further forms of cooperation were identified between the Centre for Human Rights and a number of organizations represented at the meeting. A brief summary of the meeting is given below.

A. United Nations system

1. Department of Public Information

90. The Department of Public Information (DPI) participated at the inter-agency meeting of 18 April 1991. Details of the activity of the Department in the field of human rights are contained in chapter II above.

2. Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs

91. The representative of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs recalled its fruitful cooperation with the Centre, in particular with respect to seminars and training courses. He reaffirmed the need to disseminate more forcefully the principles leading to the respect for human rights which is at the basis of social development. He recalled the Eighth United Nations Conference on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders held Havana in 1989 which stressed the importance of implementing international norms and of standard setting. He welcomed the proposal to set up a United Nations centre for human rights documentation and training in Czechoslovakia which had been formulated by the Centre for Human Rights and which was being implemented in cooperation with the Government of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic. He proposed to strengthen the cooperation between the two organizations by establishing an internship exchange programme.

3. United Nations Interregional Crime Research Institute

92. The cooperation between the United Nations Interregional Crime Research Institute (UNICRI) and the Centre for Human Rights has been very fruitful in the organization of seminars and training courses for judges and administrators of justice. It was pointed out that UNICRI had inserted human rights issues into its working programme. It was proposed that the two organizations strengthen their cooperation yet further by preparing a human rights kit for use in the field containing the basic documents on human rights standards, information and education.

4. United Nations Children's Fund

93. The Centre for Human Rights has actively cooperated with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) in developing and disseminating materials to promote the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, which entered into force on 2 September 1990. The UNICEF representative stressed the importance of education for children, in particular in the case of immigrant children. It was pointed out that a growing number of requests from Member States concerned changes in legislation in the field of children's rights.

5. United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

94. The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) representative recalled the specific mandate of the organization. He stressed that the present world situation encouraged the possibility of cooperation in the field of human rights. In particular, he stressed the existing link between human rights, economic cooperation and development. Initially, UNCTAD would be interested in strengthening cooperation with the Centre for Human Rights on the interrelationship between poverty, underdevelopment and human rights violations and on the social dimension of the international economic system and local human rights violations. Respect for human rights was a universal obligation, as was indicated at the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held in Paris in 1990. He envisaged the possibility to co-sponsor those UNCTAD projects in which a human rights perspective is needed.

6. United Nations Development Programme

95. Cooperation between the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Centre for Human Rights started with the joint project in Colombia and has been further enhanced and developed since 1989. The UNDP representative stressed the importance that human rights issues play in the development process and referred in particular to the UNDP Human Development Report, in which, human rights matters are explicitly taken into consideration and a "human freedom index" is provided. UNDP offered its cooperation, through its resident representatives in the field, to the Centre for Human Rights in its action in favour of national and regional human rights institution-building. It was proposed that, in implementing projects, the Centre could benefit from the local expertise available at UNDP field offices; it was suggested that this proposal could be reviewed in future bilateral meetings.

7. United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

96. Cooperation between the Centre for Human Rights and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) is based on the common aim of the two organizations. UNHCR is interested in strengthening cooperation with the Centre in order to protect persons in their country of origin, thus preventing refugee situations from arising. In particular, it is considered important to broaden the cooperation between the two organizations in the fields of information and training in human rights issues at the national level, as well as to further the evolution of substantive concepts of refugee law such as arbitrary detention, persecution and displaced persons. A further subject of cooperation would be human rights and mass exodus, as such movements characterize a large number of refugee situations. UNHCR stressed the importance of participating actively in the World Conference on Human Rights in 1993 and proposed that the two organizations set up an informal working group to discuss possible joint action.

8. International Labour Organisation

97. The cooperation between the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and the Centre for Human Rights could be further strengthened by focusing on joint production of basic public information materials. It was proposed to insert human rights issues in the courses organized by ILO in Turin (Italy) for UNDP coordinators. Substantive subjects of cooperation between both organizations could be those concerning migrant workers and indigenous peoples. Mention was made of the joint working group (ILO/Centre for Human Rights) which was looking into ways and means to develop further the cooperation between the two organizations.

9. United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

98. With the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the Centre for Human Rights cooperates in the field of education, training and information in the field of human rights. UNESCO representatives underlined the necessity to insert human rights education as a part of its general international education efforts. The activity of UNESCO in this field aims at creating a human rights network for education. In particular, UNESCO is promoting associate school programmes, which include human rights issues; the "Club de l'UNESCO" actively participates by providing curricula, programmes and publications for the use of NGOs. Associated university programmes and UNESCO chairs are promoted in a number of universities worldwide. Every second year, UNESCO sponsors the Prize for Teaching Human Rights. In 1993, UNESCO will organize the World Conference for Human Rights Teaching and Education in which the Centre for Human Rights has been invited to participate. Possible further cooperation between UNESCO and the Centre for Human Rights was envisaged in the establishment of a human rights data bank and in the elaboration of a human rights teaching manual to be adapted to the different cultural, political and institutional realities.

10. World Health Organization

99. Coordination between the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Centre for Human Rights has been fruitful in the past. Experts from both

organizations have participated in seminars. The WHO representative recalled the importance of cooperation in the field of human rights and health care, in particular with reference to the AIDS programme. Attention has been given to the education of children at school, in cooperation with UNESCO and UNICEF. The representative reaffirmed the availability of WHO for any further form of cooperation with the Centre for Human Rights, stressing the importance of the media in disseminating information on human rights.

B. Outside the United Nations

100. Throughout 1991, the Centre for Human Rights has continued its efforts to increase cooperation with other organizations dealing with human rights, such as international and regional organizations, academic and research institutions, non-governmental organizations and the media.

1. International Committee of the Red Cross

101. The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) also participated in the inter-agency meeting of 18 April 1991. The ICRC representative expressed great interest in strengthening cooperation between the organizations in order further to develop links between substantive elements of humanitarian law and human rights law. ICRC participated actively in the first meeting of the Preparatory Committee for the World Conference on Human Rights.

(a) Commonwealth Secretariat

102. The Commonwealth Secretariat was represented at the inter-agency meeting of 18 April 1991. Its representative recalled the importance of elaborating appropriate material for human rights teaching and training. In particular, reference was made to the Manual on Human Rights reporting which could serve as a basis to be adapted to the different local cultural, administrative and institutional realities. She stressed the necessity of finding more practical ways to strengthen cooperation between UNDP, ILO and the Centre for Human Rights and to create some network activities in the field of human rights. The Commonwealth Secretariat informed the meeting about the creation of a Commonwealth database on human rights resources and expressed the hope of cooperating with the Centre for Human Rights on this subject.

(b) Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe

103. For the first time this year, the Centre has been invited to contribute to some activities related to human rights organized in the context of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE). In particular, it participated in the meeting of experts on national minorities, held in Geneva, and it was represented at the Conference on the Human Dimension held in Moscow.

(c) Council of Europe

104. The Centre for Human Rights was represented at the Forty-Second Ordinary Session of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, at Strasbourg. It participated in the following activities organized by the Council of Europe: the Third Conference on Parliamentary Democracy (Strasbourg), a

seminar on women prostitution (Strasbourg), a coordination meeting on cooperation with Eastern European countries (Strasbourg), the Colloquium on Democracy and Legal Protection of Human Rights (Lisbon). The Centre was also represented at the Workshop on Human Rights, Development and Cooperation in Santiago de Chile which was co-sponsored by the Council of Europe.

2. Regional organizations

(d) Organization of African Unity

105. The Centre for Human Rights cooperates with the African Commission on Human and People's Rights of the Organization of African Unity in a number of training and information activities. It was also represented at the Tenth Session of the Commission, at Banjul.

(e) Organization of American States

106. The Centre for Human Rights has continued its cooperation with the Organization of American States and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights. Members of the Inter-American Commission participated in a number of training programmes organized by the Centre. The Under-Secretary-General for Human Rights participated in the meeting between the United Nations Secretariat and the Organization of American States held in New York in May 1991. Talks took place between the Centre and Organization of American States on the possibility of establishing three subregional human rights centres for documentation and training in Central America, South America and the Caribbean.

3. Human rights academic and research institutions

107. The Centre actively participated in activities organized by the Graduate Institute of International Studies in Geneva. Senior staff members gave lectures at the Seminar on International Security and took part in the Colloquium on Problems and Prospects of Refugee Law.

108. The Centre provided the International Institute for Human Rights, in Strasbourg, with three staff members to give lectures in English, French and Spanish for a four-week period during the Institute's annual human rights courses. United Nations fellows on human rights spent two weeks at the Institute in order to deepen their knowledge of regional human rights protection systems.

109. The Centre and the International Institute of Humanitarian Law at San Remo, Italy continued their cooperation. A training course on international human rights standards and the administration of justice for officials of French-speaking countries in Africa was organized in San Remo from 11 to 15 March 1991 by the Centre in cooperation with UNICRI, the Government of Italy and the International Institute of Humanitarian Law of San Remo. A representative of the Centre participated in the eighth Seminar on Contemporary International Humanitarian Law and Current Human Rights Issues in Europe, held by the Institute in Bucharest. The Seminar focused on the implementation of humanitarian law at the national level and on the protection of refugees and displaced persons. The Centre also attended the annual session of the Institute's Administrative Council in San Remo.

110. The Centre actively cooperated with the International Institute of Higher Studies in Criminal Sciences at Siracusa, Italy. Representatives of the Centre attended the fifth Seminar on human rights issues and a meeting on the subject "The protection of human rights in the administration of criminal justice in Central and Eastern Europe".

111. The Centre continued its cooperation with the Nordic Human Rights Institutes. It participated in the Human Rights, Refugee Law and Small Nations Seminar organized by the Institutes in Laugarvatn, Iceland. A staff member gave lectures at the course on "The international protection of human rights", organized by the Abo Akademi University at Turku, Finland, and a written contribution has been sent to the meeting of the HURIDOCS (Human Rights Information and Documentation System) Task Force on Databasing convened at Oslo by the Norwegian Institute of Human Rights. The Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights organized, in cooperation with the Ministry of Justice of Namibia and the Swedish International Development Authority, a workshop on human rights at Windhoek, Namibia, in which the Centre has also taken part.

112. Cooperation with the Arab Institute for Human Rights at Tunis continued throughout 1991. The Centre is a member of the Institute's Executive Board and participated in its annual session in March. The Centre also took part in various training activities organized by the Institute, such as the Séminaire arabo-africaine sur la justice pénal et la réforme pénitentiaire, held at Tunis. The Centre regularly provides the Institute with documentation about the activities of United Nations human rights bodies.

113. For the second year, the Centre was represented at the summer session on human rights organized by the European University Institute at Fiesole, Italy. The session focused on the law of the European Community and the protection of human rights in Europe.

114. The Centre provided the Academy of International Law and the Netherlands Institute of Human Rights with a staff member to give lectures at the training course on international law of human rights held at The Hague.

115. The Centre participated in a number of activities organized by other academic and research institutions. Staff members delivered lectures and addressed courses on human rights issues; groups of students from several universities worldwide have been briefed at the Palais des Nations or at Headquarters in New York.

4. Non-governmental organizations

116. Throughout the year, non-governmental organizations have actively cooperated with the United Nations bodies dealing with human rights, providing them with information and expertise. Non-governmental organizations also effectively contribute to the implementation of the activities of the World Public Information Campaign especially in the areas of information, education and dissemination of United Nations materials and publications.

117. In connection with the forty-seventh session of the Commission on Human Rights, a special briefing for representatives of non-governmental

organizations was given by the Under-Secretary-General and senior staff members from the Centre. Special meetings with the Chairmen of the Commission and of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities were also organized.

118. A briefing on human rights issues and the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities was organized in New York by the NGO Committee for Human Rights and attended by some 50 NGO representatives. A staff member from the Centre participated.

119. The Under-Secretary-General addressed the Eighteenth General Assembly of the Conference of NGOs in Consultative Status with ECOSOC in October in Geneva. The main theme of the Assembly was "NGOs in a changing United Nations: opportunities and responsibilities".

120. Special briefings on the World Conference on Human Rights for the NGO community were held at Headquarters in New York and in Geneva by senior staff members of the Centre for Human Rights.

5. Briefings, radio and television interviews

121. The Centre organizes numerous briefings on United Nations activities in the field of human rights and on specific human rights issues for students, diplomats, journalists, public officials, professors and non-governmental organizations. It also provides lecturers for the briefings organized by the Department of Public Information. Especially in connection with official visits, training courses, workshops and other meetings, the Centre provides radio and television interviews on human rights issues and press conferences. In October 1991, the Under-Secretary-General participated in the International Journalists Round Table on Human Rights and the United Nations organized by DPI in New York and gave throughout the year numerous interviews on human rights issues to television, radio, magazines and newspapers.

IV. HUMAN RIGHTS OBSERVANCES

A. Official commemorations

122. Official commemorations were organized by the Department of Public Information and the Centre for Human Rights at United Nations Headquarters at New York and at Geneva as well as at United Nations Information Centres and Services throughout the world. In addition to the activities listed in section II above, the following took place:

(a) On United Nations Day, 24 October, a ceremony took place at United Nations Office at Geneva. The Under-Secretary-General delivered a speech. A concert was also organized to celebrate the forty-sixth anniversary of the signing of the Charter of the United Nations;

(b) On 29 November 1991, a special meeting was organized to commemorate the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People at the United Nations Office at Geneva; parallel activities took place in New York. The Under-Secretary-General opened the ceremony. Representatives of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Population of the Occupied Territories, the League of Arab States, the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the Conference of the Non-aligned Countries, the Organization of African Unity and the International Coordinating Committee for Non-Governmental Organizations on the Question of Palestine participated in the meeting.

B. Exhibitions and other activities

123. A number of exhibitions were sponsored by the Centre for Human Rights in 1991 in connection with human rights events such as meetings of the Commission on Human Rights and the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, United Nations Day, Human Rights Day and World AIDS Day (2 December).

124. On 6 August 1991, a concert entitled "Free Human Rights" took place in Geneva. The concert was organized by the Rehab Hope Fund, Inc., an American non-profit public benefit corporation, and co-sponsored by the Centre, on the occasion of the presentation of the report of Mr. L. Despouy, Special Rapporteur on disability, to the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities.

V. NATIONAL FOCAL POINTS

125. The General Assembly, in paragraph 12 of resolution 43/128, urged all Member States that had not yet done so to designate national focal points that could be supplied with copies of relevant human rights material and that might also serve as points of liaison with the United Nations in the development and implementation of the World Campaign. The focal points designated by Governments as of 31 December 1991 are listed as annex III to the present report.

VI. BUDGET

126. The budget available for publication of information and reference materials in 1991 was US$ 118,000. It has been used to cover expenditures for Human Rights Fact Sheets, the Human Rights Newsletter, ad hoc publications, the Bulletin of Human Rights, human rights studies, the Yearbook on Human Rights, official records of the Human Rights Committee, United Nations Action in the Field of Human Rights, Selected Decisions of the Human Rights Committee.

127. The budget approved for 1992 is US$ 163,800. As indicated in the Centre's publications programme, it will cover expenditures for, inter alia: (a) fact sheets (four); (b) ad hoc publications (five); (c) Bulletin of Human Rights (three); (d) Human Rights Newsletter (four); (e) Human Rights: A Compilation of International Instruments; (f) Status of International Instruments; (g) Human rights studies (four); (h) United Nations Action in the field of Human Rights; (i) Yearbook on Human Rights; (j) Official Records of the Human Rights Committee.

VII. ASSESSMENT OF THE IMPACT OF THE WORLD PUBLIC INFORMATION CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

128. The aim of the World Public Information Campaign for Human Rights is to disseminate information on human rights, in order to increase understanding and awareness of human rights and fundamental freedoms. The activities carried out by the United Nations in the framework of the World Campaign have contributed to increased public interest in and awareness of human rights issues. Their impact can be assessed in terms of increased participation by the international community in the United Nations human rights programmes and of greater interest of the public worldwide in questions related to human rights.

129. In 1991, the Centre for Human Rights received the largest number of requests for technical assistance and cooperation so far from Governments from all over the world. Eighteen training courses, workshops and seminars were organized at the request of Governments. In addition, technical assistance was provided to regional organizations and institutions and to 12 Governments in areas such as documentation and information, training and legislative assistance to strengthen their national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights.

130. The number of ratifications of international human rights instruments has also increased. The Convention on the Rights of the Child, adopted in 1989, now counts 105 States parties. The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination has been adhered to by 130 States. The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights has 99 States parties while the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights has been ratified by 103 States.

131. Utilization of the United Nations mechanisms and procedures in the field of human rights continued to increase. The number of communications presented under the Optional Protocol went from 37 in 1990 to 51 in 1991. There has been also an increasing number of actions under the special procedures. For example, the work of the Special Rapporteur on summary executions almost doubled in 1991: he sent 125 urgent appeals to 44 countries (as compared with 64 appeals to 25 countries in 1990). There is a growing demand for information on the existing international mechanism available to individuals for the protection of their rights.

132. Requests for human rights materials are constantly growing. The Centre has developed a mailing list for the distribution of publications which includes more than 5,000 addresses and a list for the distribution of documentation of about 2,000 addresses. The mailing lists include academic and research communities, non-governmental organizations, national human rights institutions, media, concerned individuals, regional organizations and institutions, United Nations Information Centres and United Nations field offices. In the distribution of information materials, the Centre tries to assure that all geographical areas are properly covered.

133. In addition, the Centre daily receives requests for information on human rights issues and on the United Nations activities and programmes in the field of human rights emanating from non-governmental organizations, academic and

research institutions, schools, national and regional human rights centres and individuals. Particular interest has recently been shown in the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, the two most recent instruments adopted in the framework of the United Nations.
During 1991, the Centre replied to more than 2,000 requests for information materials. These often came from a non-specialized audience, testimony to the growing interest in human rights issues showed by the international public opinion.

134. The Centre has noted an increase in the requests for the organization of briefings on its activities and on human rights issues. Requests come mainly from universities, high schools, school teachers, journalists, non-governmental organizations, diplomats and public officials. Briefings organized by the Department of Public Information, UNITAR and ILO usually include a session on human rights, where representatives of the Centre are invited to illustrate general or specific aspects of the Centre's activities.

135. The number of invitations addressed to the Centre by non-governmental organizations, academic institutions and national and international institutions to participate in or co-sponsor meetings, conferences, training activities and other events on human rights has also seen greater increase than ever before.

136. Human rights issues and United Nations activities in this field are being covered by radio, television, newspapers and other written media with increasing frequency. The growing interest shown by the media for topics related to human rights is confirmed, for instance, by the activities organized in many Member States to celebrate Human Rights Day in cooperation with national radio and television stations.

Annex I

LIST OF ACTIVITIES OF OTHER BODIES WHICH THE CENTRE CO-SPONSORED, COOPERATED IN THE ORGANIZATION OF OR IN WHICH IT PARTICIPATED

Council of Europe: 42nd Ordinary session of the Parliamentary Assembly, Strasbourg;

Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries: Information meeting, "The United Nations towards the Year 2000", Moscow;

NGO Committees on Human Rights and on Sustainable Development: Seminar on the Right to Development, New York;

St. Mary's University School of Law: conference on "The United Nations: Law and Legal Research", San Antonio, Texas, United States;

United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI): training course on human rights, Rome;

Greek-American Association Kefelos: Lectures on human rights and the Gulf crisis, New York;

European Centre for Global Interdependence and Solidarity/Council of Europe: Latin America/Caribbean-Europe Encounter on Democracy, Human Rights, Development and Cooperation, Santiago;

International Committee of the Red Cross: training course on human rights, Geneva;

Marangopoulos Foundation of Human Rights: seminar on the United Nations human rights covenants, Athens;

Human Rights Institute of the Lawyers Association: course on human rights, Barcelona;

Institute of International Law: seminar on international law and international relations, Göttingen, Germany;

United Nations Institute for Training and Research Institute (UNITAR): seminar on the United Nations Human Rights, New York;

University of Essex: Seminar for officials of 18 small Commonwealth States, Colchester, United Kingdom;

International Labour Organisation: 8th seminar on the relations between international labour standards and technical cooperation, Geneva;

International Catholic Organizations Information Centre: lectures on migrant workers, New York;

African Centre for Democracy and Human Rights Studies: 2nd Governing Council meeting. Banjul;

Queen's University of Belfast: workshop on states of emergency, Belfast;

UNITAR: training session on United Nations activities in the field of human rights, Geneva;

University of Rutgers: conference on rhetoric and rights of identity, New York;

National Council of Catholic Women: biennial conference, New York;

World Centre for Peace, Freedom and Human Rights: meeting of Scientific Council, Verdun, France;

International Committee for Social Sciences Information and Documentation: round table on social sciences information resources of international organizations, Geneva;

Academia Internacional Liberdade e Desenvolvimento: conference on media and human rights, Sintra;

Friedrich Neumann Stiftung: conference on international democratization and new development approaches, New York;

Fordham University: Peace and Justice in the Middle East: A Human Rights Symposium, New York;

Women's Leadership Institute of Rutgers University: international conference on "Women, Violence and Human Rights", New Jersey, United States;

United Nations Development Programme: 7th session of the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, New York;

Ligue des Droits de l'Homme de Haute Savoie: Soirée-débat, Thonon les Bains, France;

University of Lapland - The Institute for Nordic Law: international seminar on linguistic rights for minorities, Rovaniemi, Finland;

Tufts European Conference Centre: International Diplomatic Symposium on a Code of Crimes and International Criminal Court, Talloire, France;

World Centre for Peace, Freedom and Human Rights: international architecture competition, Verdun, France;

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization: Informal Consultation on "Police and human rights", Paris;

International Institute of Higher Studies in Criminal Sciences: 5th human rights seminar, Siracusa;

Ligue des Droits de l'Homme de Haute Savoie: Journée de reflexion sur la Roumanie, Gaillard, France;

University of Vienna: Conference of Young Presidents' Organization, Vienna;

Refugee Policy Group: conference on human rights protection for internally displaced persons, Washington; Ecole nationale de la magistrature: seminar on justice and democracy, Paris;

UNITAR: meeting of United Nations training, research and planning institutes, Geneva;

USSR Academny of Sciences: conference on minority rights, Leningrad;

Nordic Human Rights Institutes: Seminar on Nordic human rights, refugee law and small nations, Laugarvatn, Iceland;

The World Bank: workshop on social policy for poverty reduction in Africa, Paris;

Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe: meeting of experts on national minorities, Geneva;

Risbergska Institute: lectures on human rights, Orebro, Sweden;

UNITAR: international law programme, The Hague;

Institute for Human Rights, Environment and Development: First International Conference on Human Rights Law-Making and Transition to Democracy, Kathmandu;

Amnesty International: Annual General Assembly, Geneva;

UNICRI: working group on the seminar "Cocaine today: its effects on the individual and society", Rome;

International Institute of Humanitarian Law: 8th Seminar on Contemporary International Humanitarian Law and Current Human Rights Issues in Europe, Bucarest;

Jagellonian University/College for New Europe: seminar on "A new era for democracy", Kracow;

International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations: International summer school on human rights and development, Geneva;

World Alliance of Reformed Churches; consultation on "Accompanying refugees and displaced persons", Fribourg, Switzerland;

Council of Europe: 3rd Conference on Parliamentary Democracy, Strasbourg;

Academy of International Law/Netherlands Institute of Human Rights: Training course on international law of human rights, The Hague;

United Nations Research Institute for Social Development: Brainstorming session on "Present democratization in Africa and its potential impact on refugee outflows from African countries", Geneva;

European Association of Development Research and Training Institutes: Working Group on Information and Documentation, Paris;

Council of Europe: seminar on women prostitution, Strasbourg;

Council of Europe: colloquium on democracy and legal protection of human rights, Lisbon;

UNESCO: expert meeting on the integration of international education into higher education, Tunis;

Institut du droit de la paix et du developpement: seminar on "L'Afrique dans la monde: la négociation", Nice, France;

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR): 42nd session of the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme, Geneva;

African Commission on Human and People's Rights: 10th session, Banjul, Gambia;

Conference on Society and Co-operation in Europe: Conference on the Human Dimension, Moscow;

ATD Quart-Monde: Commemoration of Victims of Poverty, Paris;

Institute of Bill of Rights Law: Federal Judiciary's Conference in Honour of the Bicentennial of the Bill of Rights, Williamsburg, United States;

UNHCR: seminar on refugee law, Sofia;

Home Office of the United Kingdom: International Expert Meeting on Implementation of United Nations Standards and Norms in Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, Vienna;

Union mondiale des professions liberales: general assembly, Geneva;

University of Alicante: Course on "Derecho internacional de los derechos humanos", Alicante, Spain;

Municipal government of Osaka: international symposium on human rights, Osaka, Japan;

Conference of NGOs in Consultative Status with ECOSOC: 18th General Assembly, Geneva;

Turkish Grand National Assembly: human rights symposium, Antalya, Turkey;

Jinane University of Tripoli: inauguration of the Centre for Human Rights, Tripoli;

International Abolitionist Federation: African regional conference on "Culture, sex and money: its effects on women and children", Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire;

International Movement against Racism: international symposium on new forms of racism, Geneva;

Institut für Staats- und Werwaltungsrecht: symposium on minorities in Eastern and Middle Europe, Vienna;

United Nations Office at Vienna: expert group meeting on violence against women, Vienna;

United Nations Development Programme: expert group meeting on "Freedom and Development", New York;

Stockholm International Peace Research Institute: conference entitled "Common security and the rule of law: what have we learned?", Stockholm;

Council of Europe: coordination meeting on cooperation with Eastern European countries, Strasbourg;

United Nations Office at Vienna: meeting on the creation of an effective United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, Versailles, France;

International Institute of Higher Studies in Criminal Sciences: meeting on the protection of human rights in the administration of criminal justice in Central and Eastern Europe, Siracusa, Italy;

International Organization for Migration: 63rd session of the IOM Council, Geneva;

Academia Internacional Liberdade e Desenvolvimento: conference on human rights in the Middle East, Sintra;

World Organization against Torture/Free Legal Action Group/Task force Detainees of the Philippines: symposium on human rights and development, Manila;

United Nations Association/21st Century/Russian Parliament/UNIC Moscow: Commemoration of Human Rights Day, Moscow;

The American Society of International Law: expert meeting of specialists in international law and human rights, Wisconsin, United States;

French Ministry of Justice: training course on human rights, Vaucresson, France;

United Nations Office at Vienna: 9th inter-agency meeting on the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons, Vienna;

UNESCO: meeting of directors of institutes of human rights, Paris;

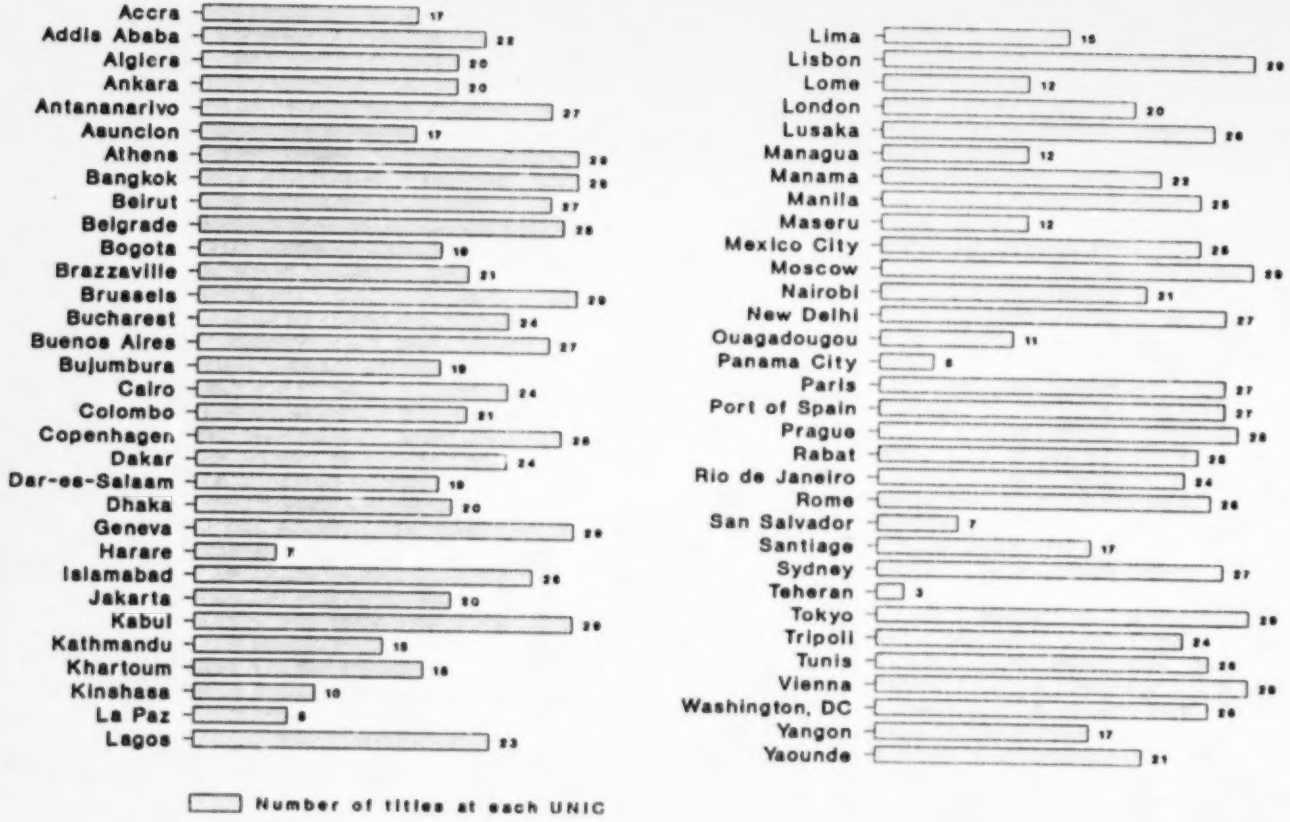
Palestine Human Rights Information Centre: Human Rights Day conference, Jerusalem;

United Nations Association of the United States: Human Rights Day commemoration, Washington;

Institut de spécialisation en institutions et techniques de protection des droits de l'homme: academic diploma-issuing ceremony, Padua, Italy.

Annex II

Human Rights Basic Reference Collections
at United Nations Information Centres•
(based on the suggested list of 29 titles of publications & reports produced by the CHR and/or intergovernmental bodies)



• N.B.: Data available from 64 UNIC/UNIS. Data unavailable from Baghdad, Madrid & Monrovia

DPI/PECRU

Annex III

List of focal points

Country	Focal point designated
Bahamas	Ministry of Education P.O. Box N-3913 Nassau
Central African Republic	Ministère des affaires etrangères Direction des affaires juridiques et du contentieux Bangui
Cyprus	Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Political Division) Nicosia
Czech and Slovak Federal Republic	Ministère fédral des affaires étrangères Département du droit international Lorentánské námestí 5 110 00 Praha 1 Institut de l'Etat et du droit de l'Académie des sciences tchécoslovaque Národní trída 18 116 91 Praha 1 - Nové Mesto Institut du droit international et des relations internationales Faculté de Droit Université de Charles námestí Curieovych 7 116 40 Praha 1 - Staré Mesto Comité du public tchécoslovaque pour les droits de l'homme et la cooperation humanitaire Opletalova 13 110 00 Praha 1
Denmark	The Danish Centre for Human Rights Kejsergade 2 P.O. Box 38, DK-1002 Copenhagen K. Ministry of Foreign Affairs Copenhagen

Finland	Finnish UN Association Unioninkatu 45 B SF 00 170 Helsinki
	The Institute for Human Rights Abo Akademi Gezelivksenkatu 2 SF 20500 Turku
Israel	The United Nations Association of Israel Member of the World Federation of United Nations Associations in Geneva P.O. Box 331 Jerusalem
Jamaica	Ministry of Education 2 National Heroes Circle Kingston 4
	Joint Board of Teacher Education University of the West Indies Mona Kingston 7
	Jamaica Information Service 58A Half Way Tree Road Kingston 10 Jamaica Attention: Executive Director
	Jamaican Movement for the Advancement of Literacy 47B South Camp Road Kingston 4
	Jamaica Broadcasting Corporation 5 South Odeon Avenue Kingston 10
	Radio Jamaica Limited 32 Lyndhurst Road Kingston 5
	The Gleaner Company Limited 7 North Street Kingston
	The Jamaica Record 7 West Street Kingston

Jamaica (continued)	REGISTRAR University of the West Indies Mona Kingston 7
	Jamaica Council of Churches 14 South Avenue Kingston 10
	Jamaica Library Service 2 Tom Redcam Drive Kingston 5 Attention: The Director
	Jamaica Council for Human Rights 131 Tower Street Kingston Attention: Miss Flo O'Connor
	Jamaica Police Academy Twickenham Park, Spanish Town St. Catherine
Japan	Ministry of Foreign Affairs Human Rights and Refugee's Division Tokyo
Malawi	The Ministry of External Affairs P.O. Box 30315 Lilongwe 3
	The Law Department Chancellor College P.O. Box 280 Zomba
	The Ministry of Justice P/Bag 333 Lilongwe 3
Malta	Secretary Ministry of Foreign Affairs Valletta
Nepal	Ministry of Foreign Affairs Kathmandu
New Zealand	The Secretary of Foreign Affairs Ministry of Foreign Affairs Private Bag Wellington

New Zealand (continued)	The Human Rights Commissioner New Zealand Human Rights Commission P.O. Box 5045 Lambton Quay Wellington
Norway	Institutt for menneskerettigheter (Institute for Human Rights) St. Olavsgt. 29 0166 Oslo 1 (Phonotelex: 72 400 FOTOTEX N Humanright Oslo Tel. No.: 02/11 10 52) Ministry of Foreign Affairs Oslo
Philippines	Commission on Human Rights IBP Building Julia Vargas Avenue Pasig Metro Manila Judge Advocate General Armed Forces of the Philippines Camp Aguinaldo Quezon City Judge Advocate General PC-INP Camp Crame Quezon City National Police Commission Fort Bonifacio Makati Department of Education Intramuros Manila Department of Justice Padre Faura Manila Integrated Bar of the Philippines IBP Building Pasig Metro Manila

Philippines (continued)	Jaime Cardinal Sin Archbishop of Manila Mandaluyong Metro Manila
Poland	Juridical Law Research Institute Ministry of Justice 09-950 Warsaw Al. Ujaydowskie 11
Sao Tome and Principe	Le Cabinet Juridique et du Traité Ministère des affaires étrangères Sao Tomé Sao Tomé-et-Principe
Spain	Ministerio de Asuntos Exteriores Oficina de Derechos Humanos Madrid
Sri Lanka	Sri Lanka Foundation Human Rights Centre No. 27 Independence Avenue Colombo 7 Sri Lanka Foundation Institute No. 100 Independence Square Colombo 7
Sweden	The Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law Box 207 S-221 00 Lund Sweden United Nations Association of Sweden Box 15115 S-104 65 Stockholm
Thailand	The Library United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific The United Nations Building Rajadamnern Avenue Bangkok 10200
Tunisia	Premier Conseiller auprès du Président de la République pour les droits de l'homme Résidence El Hama Cartage Présidence
Uganda	Ministry of Foreign Affairs P.O. Box 7048 Kampala

United Republic of Tanzania	Principal Secretary Ministry of Foreign Affairs P.O. Box 9000 Dar-es-Salaam
	The Dean of the Faculty of Law University of Dar es Salaam P.O, Box 35091 Dar-es-Salaam
	The Director Centre for Foreign Relations P.O. Box 9000 Dar-es-Salaam
	The Principal Secretary Ministry of Community Development Youth and Sports P.O. Box 1422 Dar-es-Salaam
	The Principal Secretary Ministry of Home Affairs P.O. Box 9223 Dar-es-Salaam
	The Chief Editor Daily and Sunday News P.O. Box 9033 Dar-es-Salaam
	The Chief Editor Uhuru Newspapers P.O. Box 9221 Dar-es-Salaam
	The Secretary CCM-NEC Secretariat for Social Affairs P.O. Box 50, Dodoma Tanzania
	The Director Radio Tanzania P.O. Box 9191 Dar-es-Salaam
Uruguay	Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores Dirección General de Asuntos Politicos Sección Derechos Humanos Montevideo

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